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UMNO YOUTH BACKS ABDULLAH AS DR MAHATHIR'S SUCCESSOR - HISHAMMUDDIN

KUALA LUMPUR, April 8 (Bernama) -- Umno Youth concurs with party vice-president Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak in supporting Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi as the successor to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Its chief Datuk Hishammuddin Tun Hussein said the movement was confident of a smooth leadership transition besides preserving party stability to ensure Umno remained relevant to pursue the welfare and rights of the Malays.

He said PAS had started a campaign to discredit Abdullah's leadership as what they did to Dr Mahathir previously because PAS was confident that Abdullah would take over from Dr Mahathir.

PAS attacked Abdullah's leadership because they want to take revenge on him for imposing the ban on public ceramah by all political parties, he said in a statement today.

"PAS' cheap political gimmick is only effective among PAS members who have a close mindset and do not read other newspapers except Harakah and Harakah-online," said Hishammuddin, who is Youth and Sports Minister.

Harakah, PAS' official organ, recently published the findings of a survey on Dr Mahathir's successor which showed Abdullah was in third place after Najib and Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, another Umno vice-president.

-- BERNAMA

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